



## Decoding the Paris Attacks: ISIS Blowback or French-Israeli False Flag?

[Brandon Martinez](#) November 27, 2015 [Commentary](#)



### **Decoding the Paris Attacks: ISIS Blowback or French-Israeli False Flag?**

**By Brandon Martinez**

Much evidence has come to light that has punctured a litany of holes in the official narrative of the Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> terror attacks in Paris, which allegedly claimed the lives of 130 civilians.

Mainstream reportage surrounding the event has stimulated a number of intriguing questions about the nature of this operation and how it could have been planned, organized and executed without the knowledge of French and other Western intelligence agencies who, as we know, have constructed a vast and extreme surveillance apparatus over the past 15 years.

Shortly following the Charlie Hebdo attacks in January, the French regime [implemented a despotic anti-terror bill](#) that gave authorities virtually unlimited surveillance powers. Yet, despite this amplified power to spy on just about anybody, the French authorities “dropped the ball” once again, failing to stop a highly sophisticated, multi-faceted attack that would have required so much logistical expertise and know-how that it is palpably unfeasible such a plot could succeed without the help of insiders within the French state (and possibly other states).

### **Alleged Terrorists “Known to Authorities”**

As has [been the case](#) with all of the staged ISIS attacks over the past year and a half – attacks that only started happening *after* the West launched its counterfeit “anti-ISIS” bombing campaign in August 2014 – many of the individuals accused of the newest wave of terror in Paris had been well-known to and were being monitored by authorities for years.

Samy Amimour, an alleged gunman at the Bataclan theatre, had been placed on a terror watch list in 2012 after attempting to travel to Yemen, as reported by the [Guardian](#), the [Telegraph](#), [Yahoo News](#) and other mainstream sources. The *International Business Times*, in its [article](#) “Paris attacks: Bataclan suicide bomber Samy Amimour previously charged with terror offences,” noted Amimour “had been placed under investigation in 2012 for terrorism conspiracy and under judicial supervision,” after which authorities sought his capture by issuing an international arrest warrant. He is said to have disappeared in 2013, joining the ISIS insurgency in Syria.

Amimour’s back-story [mirrors](#) that of the Charlie Hebdo terrorist patsies Cherif and Said Kouachi, both of whom had been tracked by French intelligence for nearly a decade after one of the brothers allegedly tried to join al-Qaeda militants in Iraq in 2005 and was convicted by a French court for it. Despite being on terror watch lists and the intelligence services trailing them for years, the Kouachi brothers managed to sneak in and out of France, travel to the Middle East to link up with militants, and then make their way back into France without being intercepted by authorities. Most conspicuously, surveillance was [pulled off](#) the brothers six months before the Hebdo attack, giving them a perfect window of opportunity to plan and organize the January assault on the satirical magazine’s offices. So either the stars just happened to line up for the Kouachis, or they were protected assets of French intelligence. I’ll leave it up to the reader to decide which is more likely.

Even the *Telegraph* [feigned bewilderment](#) about how French intelligence managed to overlook Amimour’s re-entry into France, writing: “The revelations [about Amimour being known to authorities for years] raise questions as to whether French police were aware Amimour had re-entered the country, and if so whether they had placed him under close supervision in the run up to Friday’s deadly attacks.”

There are also plenty of anomalies surrounding the alleged ringleader of the Paris attackers, Belgium-born Abdelhamid Abaaoud. A *Telegraph* [update](#) asked the prudent question, “How did Europe’s ‘most wanted terrorist’ slip into France from Syria unnoticed?” “French and Belgian security services are facing difficult questions as to how one of Europe’s most wanted terrorists was able to slip back into the country from Syria and mastermind the Paris attacks from a flat in the city,” the report added, further questioning the “ease with which Abaaoud appears to have been able to travel unnoticed back through Europe.”

And that is the million-dollar question. How did a high-profile member of ISIS penetrate Europe

without security services nabbing him upon entry? Especially in an Orwellian surveillance state like France where the government can track communications without a warrant.

Other questions about Abaaoud linger. Growing up in Brussels, Abaaoud had a [history](#) of petty crime and run-ins with the law, including several convictions. So he was known to police. We [are told](#) he traveled to Syria and joined ISIS some time in 2013. In February of 2014, he is said to have recruited his younger brother, only 13-years-old at the time, into ISIS. That incident made headlines in Belgium, and Abaaoud is [said](#) to have become “a household name in his native country” by this time. The *Wall Street Journal* [reported](#) that Western countries even tracked him while in Syria and sought to assassinate him in an airstrike.

Then, we are told, the now-infamous jihadi “slips back into” Belgium and plots an attack on a police station in the city of Verviers with two accomplices. In January 2015, the CBC tells us, “the ring is broken up in a raid that leads to the deaths of two of Abaaoud’s suspected accomplices.” But Abaaoud miraculously manages to escape and “[then somehow made his way back to Syria.](#)” That “somehow” is never explained. There is no possible way Abaaoud could have taken a regular flight in or out of the country, so how did he do it? In July 2015 Abaaoud is sentenced in absentia by a Belgian court to 20 years imprisonment for all of this chicanery.

In an [article](#) on the Vocativ website entitled, “Paris Attacks Mastermind Brags About Escaping ‘Crusader Intelligence’,” we learn that the now-deceased Abaaoud was heavily featured in ISIS propaganda, giving an extensive interview published in the February 2015 issue of ISIS’s “magazine” *Dabiq*, in which he boasts of coordinating previous unsuccessful attacks in Europe and of evading authorities. Vocativ reports that Abaaoud “detailed his attempted attack in the Belgian town of Verviers that resulted in the deaths of two militants in January” and bragged of escaping back to Syria after the failed operation “despite being chased by intelligence agencies.” Abaaoud specifically said: **“My name and picture were all over the news yet I was able to stay in their homeland, plan operations against them, and leave safely when doing so became necessary.”**

The farcicality of this storyline should already be apparent to the reader, but it gets [even more ridiculous](#). **“I was even stopped by an officer who contemplated me so as to compare me to the picture, but he let me go, as he did not see the resemblance!”** Abaaoud proclaimed in the *Dabiq* interview, describing his “luck” as “a gift from Allah.” So Abaaoud, a “household name” in Belgium, was right within the clutches of the police, but a moronic Belgian cop somehow failed to recognize him with his picture in hand.

Anyone with two brain cells to rub together can deduce that Abaaoud is not simply “lucky”; he is not merely “blessed”; he is most likely a protected asset of NATO, which explains why he was able to slip in and out of Europe undetected like a poltergeist without being nabbed by authorities. And even when he was stopped by police, he was mysteriously let go – not due to incompetence, as the spooks would have us believe, but deliberate connivance.

Another one of the presumed Paris attackers, Ismael Omar Mostefai (a French citizen), was known to authorities as a potential danger. The *Huffington Post*, in its [report](#) titled “Turkey Says It Warned France Twice About Paris Attacker,” details how Turkey twice warned France about Mostefai, once in December 2014 and again in June 2015, saying that they came across him during a terror-related investigation on their own soil. “Turkey shared information on Mostefai with France, but didn’t

hear anything back – until after Friday’s events,” the report states.

French police identified Mostefai, [allegedly](#), “by a fingerprint, pulled from a severed finger, found in the carnage of body parts in the concert hall.” This story harkens back to 9/11, where authorities claim to have found the DNA of the “hijackers” at the Pentagon and Shanksville crash sites, despite the nearly complete absence of plane debris at either scene. Authorities, needing to explain how they so quickly identify their patsies, usually resort to these farfetched claims about fingerprints and DNA recovery, obviously not concerned with how silly such claims sound to intelligent people. Why is nobody asking the question, how does a fingerprint prove that Mostefai was a shooter and not a victim at Bataclan? The fingerprint alone (if that claim is even true, it may be a lie for all we know) may prove he was there but not that he was a perpetrator. Other evidence is required to establish guilt in this respect, but it doesn’t seem to be forthcoming, as witnesses have yet to positively identify Mostefai as a shooter.

A CNN [profile](#) on Mostefai revealed that he “had been known to authorities as a possible threat” for some time, according to a French prosecutor. The prosecutor, Francois Molins, also disclosed that Mostefai “had an ‘S’ file on him for years, which means investigators believe he had been ‘radicalized’ in some way, though it was not clear whether he would act on his radicalization.”

It is not yet proven that he was even a legitimate member of ISIS or traveled to Syria to engage in combat with the group. The *Daily Mail* [tells us](#) that investigators “are now looking into claims that Mostefai spent several months in Syria in late 2013 and early 2014.” But, so far, no confirmation. The *Mail* article also says that “it is thought” he had been radicalized by a hate preacher at a mosque in the French city of Luce. Such speculation is not proof either. The *Mail* quotes officials at the mosque he was supposedly “radicalized” at who deny he even went there, telling reporters they “had no knowledge of Mostefai, and that neither he nor his family were members or attended.” They also [told media](#) that, “We expel people who do not respect our rules or behave strangely, and we report them to the authorities.”

All of Mostefai’s [friends, family and neighbours were](#) “stunned” that he would have participated in the attack and say he showed no signs of being radical. So there is so far no evidence that Mostefai physically joined ISIS in Syria, and the only proof he was a radical is an [unsubstantiated claim](#) by Jean-Pierre Gorges, the mayor of the French city of Chartres, who could easily be lying to implicate Mostefai.

It’s entirely plausible that Mostefai was a total patsy, framed and set-up by authorities, and had nothing to do with this attack. It’s also possible that he was involved in some way, likely as a dupe but possibly on his own volition. In any case, the “fingerprint from a severed finger” claim, as well as bare innuendo from a French politician that Mostefai was “radicalized” at a mosque whose leaders say he never attended, does not make for a very convincing case.

More anomalies deserve exploration. A [story](#) from the *Associated Press* titled “‘I have no explanation’: Key suspect in Paris theatre attack was questioned – then released by police” points out a severe oddity that has yet to be explained. The article states that **“[h]ours after the synchronized attacks that terrorized Paris, French police questioned and released the suspect who is now the focus of an international manhunt.”** The suspect in question, Salah Abdeslam, was said to be “one of three men in a getaway car, headed for France’s border with Belgium, when

police pulled them over after daybreak Saturday.” The article continues:

**“The French president had already announced new border controls to prevent the perpetrators from escaping. Hours had passed since investigators identified Abdelslam as the renter of a Volkswagen Polo that carried hostage-takers to the Paris theatre where almost three-quarters of the 129 victims were killed. It’s not clear why the local French police, known as gendarmes, didn’t take Abdeslam into custody. They checked his identification, but it’s not known whether they had been informed of his apparent connection to the attacks.”**

When asked why police didn’t arrest Abdeslam, who, as noted above, had been named as a suspect hours before he was pulled over, a French police official said: **“I have no explanation.”**

Now the [storyline emerging](#) contends that Abdeslam “chickened out” of martyrdom and tossed his suicide vest in a dumpster on the outskirts of Paris. Sky News, in its [article](#) titled “Suspected Suicide Belt Found In Paris Dustbin,” writes:

“Abdeslam is suspected of playing at least a logistical role in the coordinated shooting and suicide bombings on 13 November and police say phone location data places him in Montrouge that evening. It comes as the 26-year-old fugitive’s brother Mohamed suggested Abdeslam may have decided not to go ahead with the attack at the last moment. Another theory suggested by police is that Abdeslam, if he was involved in the attacks, may have had a technical problem with his belt.”

Another plausible theory is that Abdeslam is an intelligence asset, which would explain why police failed to arrest him after being stopped, since he’s a protected agent whose job was to facilitate the Bataclan attack and then escape. It’s also likely that he has been double-crossed by his intelligence handlers who are now pretending he was actually an ISIS operative and not working for them. The story that Abdeslam discarded his suicide vest in a dumpster sounds ludicrous, one of those too good to be true Hollywood moments. It may well be made up by authorities. Why throw it in a public dumpster instead of someplace hidden? And how did police locate it so quickly? Did they go around rummaging through waste bins in the suburbs of Paris? What did they expect to find in random waste bins? Sounds contrived.

There is a slim chance that they’ll bring Abdeslam in alive. After all, dead men tell no tales.

### **Prior Warnings**

French authorities cannot claim the attacks took them by surprise because the Iraqi government sent them a warning one day before the deadly incidents. The *Associated Press* [report](#) cited earlier explains:

“The day before the attacks, senior Iraqi intelligence officials warned France and other members of the U.S.-led coalition fighting the Islamic State that assaults by the militant group could be imminent, according to a dispatch obtained by the AP. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the group’s leader, had ordered supporters to use guns and bombs and take hostages in the days ahead in coalition countries as well as Iran and Russia, Thursday’s dispatch said.”

The French downplayed the Iraqi warning by claiming it “wasn’t specific” and that they receive similar cautions “all the time.” But Iraqi officials later clarified that **“they also shared specific**

**details with French authorities before the attack — including the size of a sleeper cell of militants they said was directing attackers sent back to France from Islamic State’s de-facto capital in Raqqa, Syria.”**

There are other examples of forewarning. Back in September of 2015, France24 reported that French authorities had arrested a French jihadist in August who told them that he was sent on a mission by ISIS to attack concerts in France. France24’s [report](#) on the incident, titled “Arrested French jihadist ‘instructed’ to attack concert,” tells us:

**“A French national suspected of planning a terrorist attack in France after returning from the Islamic State group’s Syrian stronghold of Raqqa was arrested last month, officials said Friday. The man admitted to police that he had been instructed to carry out an attack on French soil – “preferably” during a concert – but has denied that he had any intention of following through with the plan, according to a judicial source.”**

So French authorities had known since September that ISIS was sending operatives into France to attack specifically concerts. The French also had a fairly unambiguous and direct warning of an imminent attack provided by the Iraqis; they had received multiple cautions about at least one of the individuals purportedly involved, and had been monitoring several others. In fact, as the *Independent* is now [reporting](#), **“Belgian authorities allegedly had a list of suspected jihadists including the ‘mastermind’ of the Paris attacks and the two brothers who carried them out – a month before the massacre took place.”** The list contained “names and addresses of more than 80 people believed to be Islamist militants,” including the Abdeslam brothers (Salah and Ibrahim) and Abdelhamid Abaaoud (the ‘mastermind’). Yet, nothing was done to preemptively thwart these individuals.

Following the Charlie Hebdo attack in January, France essentially declared martial law, dispatching [tens of thousands of troops](#) in the streets. Then the government [passed an Orwellian surveillance bill](#) that not only gave authorities unlimited powers to wiretap phone communications and snoop on Internet traffic of ordinary citizens, but even the ability to **“bug suspects’ homes with microphones and cameras and add keyloggers to their computers to track every keystroke.”**

In spite of all of these forewarnings, in conjunction with their unprecedented surveillance prowess, the French government had “no idea” about what was to come on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>?

Do they take us all for fools?

### **Pot-Smoking “Jihadis”**

Reminiscent of the 9/11 hijacker patsies, several of the alleged attackers in Paris don’t seem to have been bona fide Islamic fundamentalists or extremists.

Ibrahim Abdeslam, who authorities say blew himself up outside a Paris café, [reportedly](#) “smoked cannabis every day while he stayed at home listening to Arabic hip hop and claiming unemployment benefits,” according to his former wife Naima.

The ex-wife [told the Daily Mail](#) that Abdeslam smoked obscene amounts of pot (“three or four joints a day”) and “never went to mosque or prayed.”

Naima also claimed her ex-husband was not the least bit interested in politics or current affairs and “never watched the news because they did not have a TV.” She further suggested that he “had no gripe with the West.”

Ibrahim and his younger brother Salah, also accused of involvement in the attacks, ran a dodgy bar in Molenbeek, Belgium, where they lived, but it was recently “closed down after [their] drug-dealing ways came to the attention of police,” reports the *Mail*.

So the two brothers were petty criminals and drug addicts, but somehow transformed into diehard ‘jihadis’ seeking martyrdom in an unrealistically short time frame.

The *Mail* article claims that Belgian authorities placed Ibrahim on a “terror watch list” at some point, which was confirmed by a [report](#) (cited earlier) in the *Independent* stating that Françoise Schepmans, the mayor of the Molenbeek district of Brussels, had a list of “radical Islamists” containing the names of the Abdeslam brothers and Abdelhamid Abaaoud on her desk a month before the Paris attacks. But that is suspicious in itself considering there were no real indications that the Abdeslam brothers were radicals, and plenty of signals to the contrary, most notably the revelations of Ibrahim’s ex-wife. Were they put on that list simply for authorities to point at later to “prove” the brothers were “radical Islamists”? It’s a possibility worth considering.

A third Abdeslam brother, Mohamed, who is not suspected of any involvement in the Paris attacks, hinted that his brothers may have been set-up, [telling a Belgian TV channel](#): **“I deeply believe that my brothers weren’t radicalised. That’s the reason why we didn’t see anything. I rather feel like my brothers were manipulated.”**

Even more bizarre is the revelation that the alleged ‘mastermind’ of the Paris attacks, Abdelhamid Abaaoud, was spotted “drinking and smoking cannabis” in a Saint-Denis bar after the events of the 13<sup>th</sup>! **“The apparent architect of the Paris attacks was reportedly seen on the streets of Paris shortly after the atrocities, smoking cannabis and drinking with a group of men, witnesses have claimed,”** [reported the \*Independent\*](#).

A witness, Amel Alla, claims she is “99.9 per cent sure” she saw Abaaoud with eight to ten other men “smoking joints and drinking beers” on the street *after* the attacks. Another witness, Jean-Jacques, claims Abaaoud “was sitting in the street with a bottle of whisky and he offered some to me.”

So if these witnesses are correct, this battle-hardened ISIS jihadist was publicly lounging around smoking pot and drinking shortly after the Paris attacks without a worry in the world. Not only does the smoking and drinking betray Abaaoud’s ‘jihadi’ credentials, but this inexplicably reckless behaviour does not support the depiction of him as a ‘terror mastermind.’ What is being described here is more like a bumbling patsy. We are supposed to believe that this man had just organized the deadliest attack in France since the Second World War, yet instead of keeping a low profile or fleeing the country, which any serious terrorist would do, Abaaoud deliberately goes out of his way to draw attention to himself publicly whilst engaged in activities considered ‘haram’ in Islam.

None of this makes any sense.

As detailed earlier, Abaaoud’s sensational escapades – traipsing in and out of Europe with remarkable ease, “planning operations” under the noses of authorities and miraculously escaping,

then returning to ‘mastermind’ the Paris attacks – are not the least bit believable; unless of course he was a protected asset of NATO.

### **Indestructible Passports and False Reporting**

Another parallel with 9/11 is the claim that two ‘suicide bombers’ who allegedly detonated outside of the Stade de France were identified by their passports conveniently “found” by police at the scene, having survived the explosions in legible condition. A [headline](#) in the *Independent* reads: “Syrian and Egyptian passports found near bodies of suicide bombers at Stade de France.”

This mimics the 9/11 fairy tale of an al-Qaeda terrorist’s passport that magically managed to survive the explosive plane crash into the tower and a massive fall to the ground, finding its way into the hands of police [virtually without a blemish](#). In total the 9/11 official story contends that [four passports](#) belonging to various “hijackers” were recovered at the assorted crash sites and such items were opportunely used as prime evidence of Muslim guilt.

French authorities have now [admitted](#) that the Syrian passport they “found” in Paris was fake and bore the name of a Syrian Army soldier, Ahmad al-Mohammad, who died months ago. Serbian authorities [later detained](#) a man carrying a passport with the exact same details as the one “found” in Paris, apparently faked by the same forger in Turkey. So who was the real bomber if there even was one?

Another damning clue that reveals the fabricated nature of the Paris attacks storyline is the false reporting emanating from Fox News that immediately established the “ISIS” connection in the public mind. Within an hour of the attacks becoming news, Fox News [ran a false story](#) alleging that a “suspect” had been arrested at the Bataclan theatre and told police “I am from ISIS.” Fox hyped the story [multiple times](#) on their live news coverage; it was picked up by other mainstream media outlets and spread like wildfire across the Internet. Fox News anchor [Shepard Smith said](#) on air:

**“There is one man who has been arrested in Paris tonight. Arrested by French authorities who told French authorities ‘I am from ISIS.’ I now have further information: that suspect has just told French police within the last hour or so, ‘I am Syrian, I was here with two others, we were recruited by ISIS and this is ... an ISIS mission.’ [The man] was quoted from inside the [Bataclan] theatre saying, ‘This is for Syria. Allahu Akbar.’”**

The story cannot be true because none of the alleged shooters/bombers at Bataclan or the other sites were taken into custody – all are now [said to have either detonated explosive suicide vests or were shot dead by police](#). A ninth suspect, Salah Abdeslam, is supposedly still on the run. Yet this incident alleging a phantom “suspect” had been arrested and confessed to being sent by ISIS was trumpeted across the web as the initial “smoking gun proof” of the terrorist group’s involvement, alongside widespread news reports that the gunmen were shouting “Allah Akbar” and “this is for Syria” during the massacre. The latter claim is questionable as well. An early eyewitness in the Bataclan theatre during the attack, radio reporter Julien Pearce, [told CNN](#) that the gunmen **“didn’t shout anything. Not Allah Akbar or something like this. They said nothing. They just shot people.”** An [audio clip](#) of the Bataclan shooting was released and no shouts of “Allah Akbar” can be heard on the tape.

Considering Fox News’ well-known status as a factory of lies for the Neocon-Zionist propaganda

machine, the fake “I am from ISIS” story appears to have been deliberately planted disinformation intended to build up the ‘ISIS did it’ narrative early on during the tragedy when the public is most gullible.

## Mass Shooting Drill

The phenomenon of “drills” or “exercises” that mimic the events that later take place is a staple of the false flag terror formula.

Such “terror drills” took place on 9/11, [where authorities mimicked hijackings and jets crashing into buildings](#); on 7/7 in London, a private security company linked to British intelligence was [running a drill simulating tube train explosions](#); in the weeks leading up to the much-hyped Ottawa shooting of October 22, 2014, Canadian authorities [had been running drills](#) simulating “ISIS-style attacks”; a year or so before the “Sydney Siege” hostage taking in Australia, [a “counter-terrorism” drill was run by Australian authorities](#) that took place in the exact same location as the future event; and on and on.

The Paris attacks were no exception. A [telling headline](#) in *Bloomberg Business News* reads: **“Hours Before the Terror Attacks, Paris Practiced for a Mass Shooting.”** On the morning of the event, a multi-site “attack exercise” coordinated by French EMT authorities and police simulated a mass shooting. “An exercise with the exact same scenario as the one that happened that night,” [pointed out a guest](#) on a French television show, commenting on the coincidence. French physician and EMT worker Patrick Pelloux [revealed the existence of the drill on French radio](#), stating:

**“As luck would have it, in the morning at the Paris SAMU (EMT), a multi-site attack exercise had been planned. So we were prepared. What needs to be known is there was a mobilisation of police forces, firemen, EMTs, associations who came [to participate] and we tried to save as many people as possible.”**

Pelloux is no stranger to the media. His [Wikipedia page](#) says he “became well known in France during the 2003 European heat wave, as he was the first to denounce that thousands of people were dying, the French authorities denying it.” Pelloux [just happened to be near](#) the headquarters of Charlie Hebdo during that attack, and was one of the first responders on the scene. He purportedly called President Hollande directly to inform him of the incident. Oddly, Pelloux has written articles for the Charlie Hebdo publication since 2004 and has also done some [acting work](#). Some suspect he is [part of the ‘crisis actor’ phenomenon](#). The Frenchman’s eyebrow-raising track record justifies the suspicions.

## The Zionist Connection

Zionist Jews seem to have an uncanny knack for possessing foreknowledge of major events, especially terrorist attacks that just so happen to benefit Israel.

On 9/11, Israelis were [forewarned over an Israeli instant messaging service called Odigo](#) of a looming terrorist attack in New York. Conspicuously, the World Trade Center was bought by a Jewish-Zionist billionaire, Larry Silverstein, six weeks before the attacks. Silverstein, who is personal friends with Benjamin Netanyahu and a lavish contributor to pro-Israel causes, attributed his absence from a routine business meeting at the top of the North Tower on 9/11 to a “miracle.” He then collected billions in terrorism insurance money and his destroyed buildings gave birth to

the Israeli-devised “War on Terror.”

A similar scenario is unfolding around the Paris attacks. Shortly after the carnage, the *Times of Israel*, a hardline Zionist media outlet, [reported](#) that France’s Jewish community leaders were tipped off on the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup> about an “impending large terrorist attack” in the country. The article states:

**“Just Friday morning, security officials in France’s Jewish community were informed of the very real possibility of an impending large terrorist attack in the country, according to Jonathan-Simon Sellem, a freelance journalist and a representative of French citizens in Israel. The Jewish community, already on high alert ahead of several planned high-profile events Sunday, had been told that after several minor attacks in France this month, a large terrorist event was thought to be on the horizon. Security experts in France, Sellem told The Times of Israel from Paris on Saturday morning, are now comparing the country’s situation with that of Israel.”**

The Zionist editors quickly swooped in and [revised](#) the story, changing the original wording from “Friday morning” to “for months.” The new phrasing implies that the warning was a vague caution that had been ongoing for “months” and was not specific to what happened on the 13th. The attempt at obfuscation notwithstanding, the French Jewish community was clearly provided with some kind of insider information, most likely by the Israeli Mossad, about an imminent major terror attack; information that no other French citizens were privy to.

To add to these suspicions, we know that the Bataclan theatre, where the main massacre allegedly took place during a concert, was until recently under Jewish ownership. French Jew Joel Laloux [owned the venue for 40 years](#) but oddly decided to part with it two months before the attack! The *Times of Israel*, in its [article](#) titled “Jewish owners recently sold Paris’s Bataclan theatre, where IS killed dozens,” informs us that, “The Bataclan theatre, targeted in Friday night’s Paris terror attacks, was Jewish-owned for decades, but was sold two months ago, its former owners said.” It adds that the venue “has for years been the target of anti-Zionist groups as the Jewish owners often put on pro-Israel events.” The *Jewish Telegraphic Agency* confirmed the details of the Bataclan owner’s pro-Israel credentials in an [article](#) headlined “Before terror, Paris’ Bataclan theatre threatened for pro-Israel events,” which states:

“Before Friday’s bloodbath at the Le Bataclan concert venue in Paris, this centrally located hall from the 19th century had received numerous threats over pro-Israel events hosted there. From at least 2006-2009, Le Bataclan was the venue for the annual fundraising gala of Migdal, the French Jewish nonprofit group that supports the Israeli Border Police. Last month, the theater served as the meeting place for a gathering of some 500 Zionist Christians who came there in support of Israel.”

Mirroring 9/11, the Zionist ownership of the targeted venue in Paris has kindled much suspicion about the Bataclan’s proprietor, Joel Laloux, and what he may have known about the attack in advance. Reflecting on the report that French Jewish community leaders were on “high alert” about an impending large-scale terror attack “for months,” and the fact that French intelligence learned in September from an apprehended “French jihadist” that ISIS had ordered attacks on concerts, it begs the question whether Laloux was himself made aware of what was to come, prompting him to suddenly sell his business and [move to Israel](#).

These Zionist connections are intriguing and coalesce nicely with the reality that any anti-Western terrorism blamed on Muslims, no matter their orientation, is good for Israel. To no one's surprise, Israel's bellicose Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wasted no time exploiting the tragedy in Paris for political gain. Much like he did after the Charlie Hebdo attack and every other major terror spectacle from 9/11 forward, Netanyahu quickly tried to [link the bloodshed](#) in Paris to "what Israel goes through," declaring that "an attack on one of us is an attack on us all." CRIF, the main Jewish lobby umbrella group in France, echoed Netanyahu's propagandistic chorus, [publicly calling](#) for a "world war against jihadism" in response to the attacks.

### **French Leaders are Zionist Puppets**

The French political leadership has for some time now been acting almost exclusively in the interests of Jews and Israel. Next to those of America and Canada, French leaders over the past decade have been consistently and fanatically pro-Zionist.

The French regime has made pro-Palestinian activism exceedingly difficult in France and has desperately moved to scuttle anti-Israel boycotters. France was the first country in the world to [ban pro-Palestinian street protests](#) in 2014. At the behest of the Zionist lobby, French courts have even penalized pro-Palestinian activists under the country's "anti-hate" laws. An October 2015 *International Business Times* [article](#) on the issue noted:

"Anti-Israel activists have taken to Twitter to protest a French high court decision upholding a ruling that sentenced a group of pro-Palestinian activists in Colmar, France, to pay high fines, for urging grocery store patrons to forgo products made in Israel. The activists were prosecuted under a French law that prohibits speech that 'incites racial hatred,' and it has often been used to prevent hate speech."

France also plays host to a particularly virulent branch of the Jewish Defense League (JDL), a radical Zionist ISIS of sorts, which enjoys relative impunity to conduct its violent and coercive methods aimed at [intimidating and silencing anti-Zionists](#) throughout the country.

Successive French Presidents have all made groveling public displays of affinity for Israel and the domestic Jewish community. Former President Nicolas Sarkozy, a man of partial Jewish heritage [who was outed](#) by the French daily *Le Figaro* as a long-time asset of the Israeli Mossad, has made no secret of his love affair with Israel, [telling a Jewish journalist](#) that Israel's struggles are "the fight of my life."

A *Jerusalem Post* [article](#) titled "Unpopular at home, Hollande appreciated in Israel," quotes the current French president, [Francious Hollande](#), stating that he "will always remain a friend of Israel." Hollande, like Sarkozy before him, has [parroted](#) the Israeli line on Iran, Hezbollah and the conflict with the Palestinians.

Hollande's foreign minister, Laurent Fabius, is Jewish. The Prime Minister Manuel Valls is blessed with a Jewish wife. Valls is a favourite of the French Jewish lobby for his incessant public pledges to stamp out "anti-Semitism" in France. Following the Charlie Hebdo events, Valls decried the prospect of French Jews emigrating to Israel en masse, stating that "if 100,000 Jews leave, France will no longer be France," adding that the Republic "will be judged a failure" if relieved of its Jews. In 2011, Valls [told an audience](#) that he is, by virtue of his Jewish wife, "eternally tied to the Jewish community and to Israel." That and other comments [sparked former French foreign minister Roland](#)

[Dumas](#) to state that Valls is “under Jewish influence.”

In April 2015, Valls himself [spearheaded a government-backed initiative](#) to stifle criticism of Jews, allocating \$107 million of taxpayers’ money to the censorship project. Reflecting the attitude and wishes of his Zionist backers, Valls has [relentlessly pursued a witch-hunt](#) against the wildly popular French comedian Dieudonne, who works anti-Zionist themes into his comedy skits. Under the leadership of Hollande and Valls, the French regime has engaged in endless judicial harassment of Dieudonne, culminating in the comedian’s [arrest](#) days after the Charlie Hebdo affair on Orwellian trumped up charges of “condoning terrorism.”

### **The West Created ISIS to Help Israel**

The ISIS phenomenon itself was deliberately cultivated by Western powers as part of their lunatic bid – primarily in the interests of Israel – to depose Syria’s resilient President Bashar al-Assad and bleed the Arab country to death.

The evidence for this has been rapidly emerging for years, culminating in a now [legendary admission](#) from the former head of the US Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), Michael Flynn, that Washington made a “willful decision” to support and facilitate the rise of Wahhabist, Salafist and al-Qaeda-linked extremist groups – entities that have metastasized into what is now known as the “Islamic State” – in Syria as a counter-weight against Assad, and by extension Iran and Hezbollah.

A [2012 DIA report](#), issued under Flynn’s leadership, firstly acknowledged that the Syrian rebels were (during this early stage of the conflict) dominated by “Salafist, Muslim Brotherhood and al-Qaeda” extremist elements. Despite the involvement of said extremists and religious fanatics, the intelligence document wrote, “the West, the Gulf States and Turkey” continued to be the primary backers of this violent, extremist-led opposition in Syria in order to topple the Assad regime. Specifically, the document states that “there is the possibility of establishing a ... Salafist principality in Eastern Syria,” and that such a development was seen by the “supporting powers” (the West, Gulf States and Turkey) of the anti-Assad militants as a strategic opportunity to “isolate the Syrian regime, which is considered the strategic depth of Shia expansion (Iraq and Iran).”

Security scholar Nafeez Ahmed [summarized](#) the essence of the DIA document, writing:

**“The secret Pentagon document thus provides extraordinary confirmation that the US-led coalition currently fighting ISIS, had three years ago welcomed the emergence of an extremist ‘Salafist Principality’ in the region as a way to undermine Assad, and block off the strategic expansion of Iran. Crucially, Iraq is labeled as an integral part of this ‘Shia expansion.’”**

Following Washington’s lead, France itself has played an indispensable role in that agenda, funneling cash and arms to anti-Assad rebels, including the head-choppers of ISIS and al-Nusra Front, from the outset of the unrest in Syria. A December 2012 [Guardian report](#) entitled, “France funding Syrian rebels in new push to oust Assad,” laid bare France’s dirty hands behind Syria’s internal woes. **“France has emerged as the most prominent backer of Syria’s armed opposition and is now directly funding rebel groups around Aleppo as part of a new push to oust the embattled Assad regime,”** the report, authored by journalist Martin Chulov, explained. Chulov goes on:

**“Large sums of cash have been delivered by French government proxies across the Turkish border to rebel commanders in the past month, diplomatic sources have confirmed. The money has been used to buy weapons inside Syria and to fund armed operations against loyalist forces. ... [A]ccording to western and Turkish officials as well as rebel leaders, the influx of money has made a difference in recent weeks as momentum on the battlefields of the north steadily shifts towards the opposition.”**

Some of the French cash, Chulov noted, **“reached Islamist groups who were desperately short of ammunition and who had increasingly turned for help towards al-Qaida aligned jihadist groups in and around Aleppo.”** Chulov further revealed that French military advisors **“met with rebel groups inside Syria, in an area between Lebanon and Damascus, in further evidence of efforts by Paris to step up pressure on president Assad.”**

An August 2014 France24 [report](#) titled “France delivered arms to Syrian rebels, Hollande confirms” tells us that, **“President Francois Hollande said on Thursday that France had delivered weapons to rebels battling the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad ‘a few months ago.’”**

“French imperialism has been arming Syrian Islamist opposition forces since at least the spring of 2013,” writes Pierre Mabut in a [World Socialist Web Site report](#) on French support for anti-Assad armed militants. Citing French newspaper *Le Monde*, Mabut writes that France under Hollande’s leadership has “provided weapons including 12.7-mm machine guns, rocket launchers, body armour and communications equipment” to Islamist insurgents in Syria.

The West’s actions in Syria are, in large part, motivated by its subservience to Israel, which earmarked the Assad regime for extinction years ago. The former Israeli ambassador to the US, Michael Oren, outlined in candid terms Tel Aviv’s desire to oust Assad and install a friendly regime in its place. He told the *Jerusalem Post* in a [September 2013 interview](#) that Tel Aviv’s goal of regime change in Syria was **“a position we had well before the outbreak of hostilities in Syria. With the outbreak of hostilities we continued to want Assad to go.”** Oren further pontificated about Assad’s status as a “keystone” in a “strategic arc that extends from Tehran, to Damascus to Beirut” – an alliance that Israel views as a major impediment to its hegemony in the region, and sought to disrupt through proxy warfare.

### **Hollande Brings Back Pathetic Bushisms**

Resurrecting Bush-era neocon propaganda, French President Francois Hollande [said](#) that Islamic extremists, specifically the ones who allegedly attacked Paris, “fight us because France is a country of freedom.” If the statement was not an attempt at humour, then Hollande must be delusional.

France is by no means a “free country,” boasting some of the most restrictive laws against free speech (such as draconian “Holocaust denial” and “hate speech” laws), on top of newly minted police state powers sanctioning mass surveillance of the civilian population. In the name of “freedom,” Hollande declared a “state of emergency,” effectively putting the nation under martial law – that is to say military rule with enforced curfews, totalitarian opinion-monitoring and widespread mass surveillance of the citizenry. The autocrat is now [pushing to revise French law](#) to allow a state of emergency (martial law) to last three months instead of 12 days. Soon enough he’ll scrap all existing laws and declare a full-on dictatorship.

Even if we are to accept that “ISIS” did this attack in Paris, it was not because they hate France’s elusory “freedom,” but because France has taken part in the “anti-ISIS” bombing coalition that was launched by the West more than a year ago. France has ostensibly (although not actually) been hitting ISIS targets for 15 months, which is what ISIS cites as their primary motive for attacks against Western targets. Moreover, French politicians themselves funded, armed and trained many of these militants and terrorists in the first place in their failed criminal effort to overthrow Assad. And they are now expressing shock that their own insane and immoral foreign policies have (allegedly) come back to haunt them? No, France’s leaders are playing a sick and twisted double game, using their own people as pawns in it.

So even if we are to ignore the fact that Western powers conspired to create and sponsor ISIS to execute a Zionist-inspired regime change policy in Syria; even if we are to ignore all of the anomalies surrounding this latest terror spectacle in Paris that point to a false flag, or at the very least a “let it happen” scenario; the truth is that President Hollande is a cynical charlatan who is conning his own population with audacious lies, and is, like his criminal counterparts in Brussels, London, Ottawa, Sydney and Washington, using staged terror to expedite the Zionist-Globalist agenda, of which he is a loyal servant.

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**Written by [Brandon Martinez](#)**

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## Everybody Knew But the French? Foreknowledge of Paris Attacks Widespread

[Brandon Martinez](#) November 17, 2015 [Commentary](#), [News](#)



**Non-Aligned Media / Brandon Martinez**

Reports are now surfacing showcasing the extensive foreknowledge of last week's attacks in Paris by multiple foreign countries.

Iraq says it warned coalition countries of imminent attacks one day before last Friday's lethal

assaults. *Associated Press* **reported: (p.17)**

Senior Iraqi intelligence officials warned members of the U.S.-led coalition fighting the Islamic State group of imminent assaults by the militant organization just one day before last week's deadly attacks in Paris killed 129 people.

Turkish officials have come out with embarrassing revelations that they notified their French counterparts about one individual who has been named as a participant in the attack more than a year ago, but nothing was done. A *Huffington Post* **report (p.20)** titled, "Turkey Says It Warned France Twice About Paris Attacker," explained:

Turkish authorities had warned France twice about the threat posed by one of the Paris terrorist attackers, a Turkish official said Monday. Ismaël Omar Mostefai, a 29-year-old French citizen, was identified Sunday as one of the attackers at the Bataclan concert hall, where at least 89 were killed on Friday. A senior Turkish official told The Huffington Post that the country turned up Mostefai's name when investigating four other terror suspects in 2014. "During the official investigation, the Turkish authorities identified a fifth individual, Omar Ismail Mostefai, and notified their French counterparts twice — in December 2014 and June 2015," the official said. Turkey shared information on Mostefai with France, **but didn't hear anything back — until after Friday's events.**

Tellingly, Israeli sources are now reporting that security officials in the French Jewish community had foreknowledge of the attack. **"For months, security officials in France's Jewish community have been warned of the very real possibility of an impending large terrorist attack in the country,"** noted a *Times of Israel* **report (p.24)**. And Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu [has himself claimed](#) to have provided detailed intelligence about the Paris attackers to France.

Strangely, the Bataclan theatre that was the main target of the lethal attacks was owned by Zionist Jews who often held pro-Israel events and fundraisers at the premises. Conveniently the Jewish owners sold the venue two months before last Friday's attacks. The *Times of Israel*, in its **article (p.27)** titled "Jewish owners recently sold Paris's Bataclan theater, where IS killed dozens," noted:

**The Bataclan theater, targeted in Friday night's Paris terror attacks, was Jewish-owned for decades, but was sold two months ago, its former owners said. French magazine Le Point said early Saturday that the Bataclan, where at least 80 people were massacred by Islamic State gunmen on Friday night, has for years been the target of anti-Zionist groups as the Jewish owners often put on pro-Israel events.**

So once again we have evidence of Israeli and Jewish prior knowledge of a major terror spectacle that significantly benefitted Israel and the Zionist agenda.

Despite all of these warnings, and a **vast Orwellian surveillance apparatus (p.30)** in place, the French authorities somehow missed all the signals and bungled all of the intelligence.

At the very least, the French regime, notorious for its subservience to the Israeli agenda, allowed the attacks in Paris to take place, and most likely aided and abetted them.

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# AP Newsbreak: Iraq warned of attacks before Paris assault

By [QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA](#) Nov. 15, 2015 4:30 PM EST



French police patrol at the place de la Republique in Paris, France, Sunday Nov. 15, 2015, two days... [Read more](#)

BAGHDAD (AP) — Senior Iraqi intelligence officials warned members of the U.S.-led coalition fighting the Islamic State group of imminent assaults by the militant organization just one day before last week's deadly attacks in Paris killed 129 people, The Associated Press has learned.

Iraqi intelligence sent a dispatch saying the group's leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, had ordered an attack on coalition countries fighting against them in Iraq and Syria, as well as on Iran and Russia, through bombings or other attacks in the days ahead.

The dispatch said the Iraqis had no specific details on when or where the attack would take place, and a senior French security official told the AP that French intelligence gets this kind of communication "all the time" and "every day."

Without commenting specifically on the Iraqi warning, a senior U.S. intelligence official said he was not aware of any threat information sent to Western governments that was specific enough to have thwarted the Paris attacks. Officials from the U.S., French and other Western governments have expressed worries for months about Islamic State-inspired attacks by militants who fought in Syria, the official noted. In recent weeks, the sense of danger had spiked.

Six senior Iraqi officials confirmed the information in the dispatch, a copy of which was obtained by the AP, and four of these intelligence officials said they also warned France specifically of a potential attack. Two officials told the AP that France was warned beforehand of details that French authorities have yet to make public.

"We have recovered information from our direct sources in the Islamic State terrorist organization about the orders issued by terrorist 'Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi' directing all members of the organization to implement an international attack that includes all coalition countries, in addition to Iran and the Russian Federation, through bombings or assassinations or hostage taking in the coming days. We do not have information on the date and place for implementing these terrorist operations at this time," the Iraqi dispatch read in part.

Among the other warnings cited by Iraqi officials: that the Paris attacks appear to have been planned in Raqqa, Syria — the Islamic State's de-facto capital — where the attackers were trained specifically for this operation and with the intention of sending them to France.

The officials also said a sleeper cell in France then met with the attackers after their training and helped them to execute the plan.

There were 24 people involved in the operation, they said: 19 attackers and five others in charge of logistics and planning.

The officials all spoke anonymously because they are not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility on Saturday for the gun and bomb attacks on a stadium, a concert hall and Paris cafes that also wounded 350 people, 99 of them seriously. Seven of the attackers blew themselves up. Police have been searching intensively for accomplices.

Iraq's Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari, also told journalists in Vienna on Sunday that Iraqi intelligence agencies had obtained information that some countries would be targeted, including France, the United States and Iran, and had shared the intelligence with those countries.

Officials in the French presidential palace would not comment.

Every night, the head of French counterintelligence goes to bed asking 'why not today?' the French security official said.

The Iraqi government has been sharing intelligence with various coalition nations since they launched their airstrike campaign against the Islamic State group last year. In September, the Iraqi government also announced that it was part of an intelligence-sharing quartet with Russia, Iran and Syria for the purposes of undermining the militant group's ability to make further battlefield gains.

A third of Iraq and Syria are now part of the self-styled caliphate declared by the Islamic State group last year. A U.S.-led coalition operating in Iraq and Syria is providing aerial support to allied ground forces in both countries, and they are arming and training Iraqi forces. The U.S. said it is also sending as many as 50 special forces to northern Syria.

Russia is also conducting airstrikes in Syria and recently endured a tragedy of its own when a Russian airplane was downed in a suspected bombing in Egypt last month, killing all 224 passengers onboard. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack.

U.S. Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, said Sunday the attack was likely directed and funded out of Syria.

France has been on edge since January, when Islamic extremists attacked the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, which had run cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad, and a kosher grocery. Twenty

people died, including the three attackers. The Charlie Hebdo attackers claimed links to extremists in Yemen, while the kosher market attacker claimed ties to the Islamic State group.

At the time, France's prime minister acknowledged "failings" in intelligence that led to the three-day spree of horror, as criticism mounted that the attacks might have been avoided if officials had been more alert to the deadly peril posed by suspects already on their radar.

Experts noted that several factors may have been behind the failures in January: Security services are drowning in data, overwhelmed by the quantity of people and emails they are expected to track, and hampered by the inability to make pre-emptive arrests in democratic countries. Criticism had focused on the failure to more closely follow the two brothers who carried out the attack on the Charlie Hebdo newspaper. One had been convicted on terrorism charges and the other was believed to have linked up with al-Qaida forces while in Yemen. Both were on the U.S. no-fly list, according to a senior U.S. official, because of their links to terrorist movements.

Bernard Bajolet, the head of the French spy service, spoke during a public appearance at George Washington University in Washington two weeks ago about the twin threats France was facing, both from its own extremists and "terrorist actions which are planned (and) ordered from outside or only through fighters coming back to our countries."

General warnings about potential attacks from Iraqi intelligence or other Middle Eastern intelligence services are not uncommon, the official said. The French were already on high alert.

"During the last month we have disrupted a certain number of attacks in our territory," Bajolet said. "But this doesn't mean that we will be able all the time to disrupt such attacks."

Obtaining intelligence about the Islamic State group has been no easy feat given difficulties accessing territory held by the radical Sunni group. Iraqi agencies generally rely on informants inside the group in both Iraq and Syria for information, but that is not always infallible. Last year, reports from Iraqi intelligence officials and the Iraqi government that al-Baghdadi was injured were later denied or contradicted.

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Associated Press writers Vivian Salama and Zeina Karam in Baghdad, Angela Charlton and Jamey Keaten in Paris, and Ken Dilanian in Washington contributed to this report.

From The Web

## Turkey Says It Warned France Twice About Paris Attacker

The country says it told France to look out for the 29-year-old in December 2014 and June 2015.



[Lee Moran](#)

Trends Editor, The Huffington Post

Posted: 11/16/2015 07:25 AM EST | Edited: 11/16/2015 10:38 AM EST



KENZO TRIBOUILLARD via Getty Images

Turkish authorities had warned France twice about the threat posed by one of the Paris terrorist attackers, a Turkish official said Monday.

[Ismaël Omar Mostefai](#), a 29-year-old French citizen, was identified Sunday as one of the attackers at the Bataclan concert hall, where at least 89 were killed on Friday. A senior Turkish official told The Huffington Post that the country turned up Mostefai's name when investigating four other terror suspects in 2014.

"During the official investigation, the Turkish authorities identified a fifth individual, Omar Ismail Mostefai, and notified their French counterparts twice -- in December 2014 and June 2015," the official said.

Turkey shared information on Mostefaï with France, but didn't hear anything back -- until after Friday's events.

The Islamic State has taken credit for the attacks, which rocked the city and left at least 129 people dead. France is still in a state of emergency, and [police raids for potential suspects](#) on Sunday night netted 23 people.

### *Presidential Candidates React To Paris Attacks*

1 of 17



Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.)  
"My prayers tonight are with the people of France and all those impacted by the terrible tragedy unfolding in Paris. These brutal terror attacks against innocent civilians are a reminder of the increasing dangers facing free peoples around the world, and it is important for all Americans to stand with the

people of France in this difficult time.

"As we learn more about the attacks and who is behind them, the United States should assist the French government in finding those who are accountable and bringing them to justice. We cannot let those who seek to disrupt our way of life succeed. We must increase our efforts at home and abroad to improve our defenses, destroy terrorist networks, and deprive them of the space from which to operate."

"During the official investigation, Turkish authorities identified a fifth individual, Ismaël Omar Mostefaï, and notified their French counterparts twice," said the official.

"We have, however, not heard back from France on the matter. It was only after the Paris attacks that the Turkish authorities received an information request about Ismaël Omar Mostefaï from France," he added.

It's claimed that Turkish officials knew he'd entered Turkey in 2013 and that there was "no record of him leaving the country."

This, it's suggested, means he may have illegally crossed the border for Syria. It's not known how he re-entered France.



ERIC CABANIS via Getty Images

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, reportedly said that he wasn't looking to embarrass France with the revelations.

"This is not a time to play the blame game, but we are compelled to share the above information to shed light on Omar Ismail Mostefai's travel history," he said.

"The case of Omar Ismail Mostefai clearly establishes that intelligence sharing and effective communication are crucial to counter-terrorism efforts. The Turkish government expects closer cooperation from its allies in the future," he added.

Mostefai had been described by multiple media outlets in France as a petty criminal, of North African descent, who grew up in the Parisian suburb of Courcouronnes.



## [The Political Implications of the Paris Attacks](#)

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## In France, defense experts ‘see parallels to Israel’

French-born Israeli journalist says Jewish community has been on alert for months amid fears of mass terror attack

By [Amanda Borschel-Dan](#) November 14, 2015, 2:08 pm



Jonathan-Simon Sellem (photo: courtesy)

For months, security officials in France’s Jewish community have been warned of the very real possibility of an impending large terrorist attack in the country, although there had been no specific information, according to Jonathan-Simon Sellem, a freelance journalist and a representative of French citizens in Israel.

Security experts in France, Sellem told The Times of Israel from Paris on Saturday morning, are now comparing the country’s situation with that of Israel.

On BFMTV, France’s largest mainstream news channel, [defense analyst Dominique Rizet said](#) what is happening in France today has been happening in Israel for the past 20 years — and it is just the beginning.

The Bataclan theater, site of Friday’s deadliest attack, was until recently Jewish-owned, said Sellem. As the site of annual fundraisers for the IDF, it is frequently targeted by anti-Israel protests, phone calls and emails, he said.

But, Sellem emphasized, the Jewish community in France “should not fall into paranoia.”

He called Friday night’s attacks “very crazy.”

“It’s like living in Israel,” said Sellem. He had intended to be at the soccer match at Stade de France

on Friday night, but instead went to a movie, which was interrupted in the wake of the four-pronged attack and patrons told to go home.



Flowers, candles and the French national flag with Paris's Latin motto 'Tossed but not sunk' written on it, are laid outside next to a Cambodian restaurant a day after 12 people were killed there, on November 14, 2015. (AFP PHOTO/DOMINIQUE FAGET)

Sellem said central Paris was a ghost town on Friday night — with no vehicles in the streets, nor people on the sidewalks.

But on Saturday morning, said Sellem, he felt a more normalized Paris — albeit with a bolstered security presence. The airline he is with flying on Saturday, he said as he prepared to take off from Charles de Gaulle airport, is trying to elevate its security measures with more questioning, a la Israel's national carrier El Al.

"But they don't know what to do. They're really not ready for this," he said.

*(Editor's note: The original article was edited for clarity.)*

#### WRITERS



[Amanda Borschel-Dan](#)

Amanda Borschel-Dan is  
The Times of Israel's Jewish  
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## Jewish owners recently sold Paris's Bataclan theater, where IS killed dozens

**'We're devastated because we knew everyone who worked there,' says former owner Pascal Laloux**

By [Times of Israel staff](#) and [AP](#) November 14, 2015, 5:50 pm



Rescuers evacuate an injured person near the Bataclan concert hall in central Paris, early on November 14, 2015.  
(AFP PHOTO/MIGUEL MEDINA)

**T**he Bataclan theater, targeted in Friday night's Paris terror attacks, was Jewish-owned for decades, but was sold two months ago, its former owners said.

French magazine *Le Point* said early Saturday that the Bataclan, where at least 80 people were massacred by Islamic State gunmen on Friday night, has [for years been the target of anti-Zionist groups](#) as the Jewish owners often put on pro-Israel events. The publication quoted a member of the extremist group Army of Islam, who told French security services in 2011 that, "We had planned an attack against the Bataclan because its owners are Jews."

The Eagles of Death Metal, the band performing at the theater when the attacks began, played in Tel Aviv's Barby club in July.

Pascal Laloux, one of the theater's former owners, said Saturday that the theater was "sold in

September after 40 years.”

“We’re devastated because we knew everyone who worked there,” he told Israel’s Channel 2 news.

His brother Joel, the co-owner, told Channel 2 that they sold the theater on September 11, and he recently immigrated to Israel. He said he took a call from the theater at the time of the attack “and I could hear the gunfire.”

He also said a member of the Eagles of Death Metal was “hit by a bullet and killed.” There was no confirmation of this. “There is blood everywhere,” he said. “It will take three days just to clean that up.”

Pascal said Parisians no longer feel safe “after what happened here.”

“The terrorists have no rules,” Pascal said. “We have to take the bull by the horns” in the battle against terror, “and France and the government never do.”



Rescuers evacuate an injured person near the Bataclan concert hall in central Paris, early on November 14, 2015.  
(AFP PHOTO/MIGUEL MEDINA)

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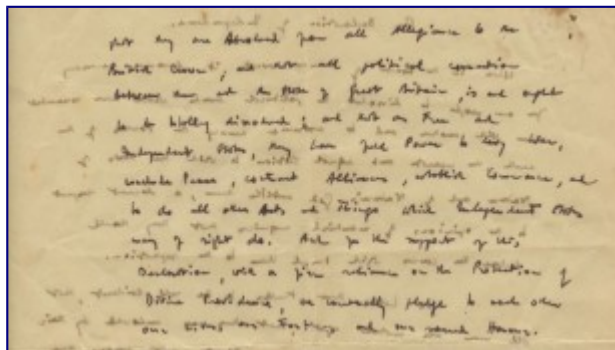
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### France passes new surveillance law in wake of Charlie Hebdo attack

Controversial new bill that allows intelligence agencies to tap phones and emails without judicial permission sparks protests from civil liberties groups



Demonstrators hold placards reading 'Stop to Mass Surveillance', and 'Members of Parliament Protect our Freedom', during a gathering at Invalides, Paris, to protest against the emergency government surveillance law  
Photograph: Francois Mori/AP

[Angelique Chrisafis](#) in Paris and agencies

**Tuesday 5 May 2015**

The French parliament has overwhelmingly approved sweeping new surveillance powers in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris in January that killed 17 people at the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo and a kosher grocery in Paris.

The new bill, which allows intelligence agencies to tap phones and emails without seeking permission from a judge, sparked protests from rights groups who claimed it would legalise highly intrusive surveillance methods without guarantees for individual freedom and privacy.

Protesters for civil liberties groups launched a last-ditch campaign against the bill under the banner "24 hours before 1984" in reference to George Orwell's dystopian novel about life under an all-knowing dictatorship. Groups including Amnesty International warned of "extremely large and

intrusive powers” without judicial controls.

But despite opposition from green and hard-left MPs, the bill won the overwhelming backing of the majority of MPs from the Socialist and rightwing UMP parties, which said it was necessary to tackle the terrorist risk. The bill was passed in the national assembly by 438 votes to 86, with a handful of no votes from Socialist MPs.

The new law will allow authorities to spy on the digital and mobile phone communications of anyone linked to a “terrorist” inquiry without prior authorisation from a judge. It forces internet service providers and phone companies to give up data upon request.

Intelligence services will have the right to place cameras and recording devices in private homes and install so-called keylogger devices that record every key stroke on a targeted computer in real time. The authorities will be able to keep recordings for a month and metadata for five years.

One of the most contentious elements of the bill is that it allows intelligence services to vacuum up metadata, which would then be subject to analysis for potentially suspicious behaviour. The metadata would be anonymous, but intelligence agents could follow up with a request to an independent panel for deeper surveillance that could yield the identity of users.

Another controversial element is the so-called “black boxes” – or complex algorithms – that internet providers will be forced to install to flag up a succession of suspect behavioural patterns online, such as keywords used, sites visited and contacts made

[Surveillance](#) agencies will also be able to bug suspects’ homes with microphones and cameras and add keyloggers to their computers to track every keystroke.

The French prime minister, Manuel Valls, defended the bill as “necessary and proportionate”, saying that to compare it to the mass surveillance Patriot Act introduced in the United States after the 9/11 attacks was a lie.

He said that the previous French law on wiretapping dated back to 1991, “when there were no mobile phones or internet,” and the new bill was crucial in the face of extremist threats.

Pierre-Olivier Sur, chairman of the Paris bar lawyers’ association, [warned this week](#) that the bill was “a serious threat to public liberties” and would put French people under “general surveillance”.

[France](#) is monitoring an estimated 1,200 Islamists and about 200 people who have returned from fighting with militant groups in Syria and Iraq. It has earmarked about €425m (£300m) to recruit thousands of extra police, spies and investigators to beef up surveillance and boost national security and intelligence.

The interior minister, [Bernard Cazeneuve](#), told Libération last month: “The measures proposed are not aimed at installing generalised surveillance. On the contrary, it aims to target people who we need to monitor to protect the French people.”

The president, François Hollande, has taken the rare step of promising to refer the law to the constitutional council, the country’s highest authority on the constitution, to ensure its principles are lawful.

The law will now be examined by the senate.

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